

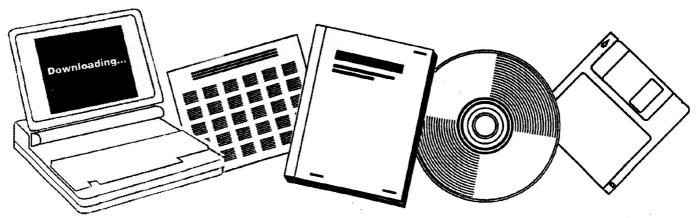
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DESIGN AND FABRICATION OF THE BRAYTON CYCLE HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE FINAL REPORT

AIRESEARCH MFG. CO., PHOENIX, ARIZ

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FINAL REPORT DESIGN AND FABRICATION OF THE BRAYTON CYCLE HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE

Prepared for

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

by

AiResearch Manufacturing Company of Arizona

November 29, 1967

Contract NAS3-9427

Technical Management

NASA Lewis Research Center
Cleveland, Ohio

Space Power Systems Division
James H. Dunn

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ABSTRACT

AiResearch Manufacturing Company of Arizona designed, fabricated, performed acceptance testing and delivered to the NASA a Brayton-Cycle Compressor Research Package under NASA Contract NAS3-9427.

The research package is aerodynamically identical to the compressor used in the NASA Brayton Rotating Units (BRU) to be delivered under the same contract. This compressor research package will be utilized at the NASA Lewis Research Center for complete component performance evaluation.

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FINAL REPORT DESIGN AND FABRICATION OF THE BRAYTON CYCLE HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report submitted by the AiResearch Manufacturing Company of Arizona, a division of the Garrett Corporation, describes the design, fabrication, inspection and acceptance testing of the NASA Brayton-Cycle Compressor Research Package.

The research package consists of a 4.25-inch diameter compressor wheel and shaft mounted on ball bearings and the associated mounting hardware. The aerodynamic passages of the impeller and diffuser are identical to the compressor of the Brayton Rotating Units (BRU) to be delivered under the same contract.

The Compressor Research Package underwent a mechanical integrity spin-up test as reported in the acceptance test section of this report. Subsequently, the research package was shipped to the NASA-Lewis Research Center in accordance with the contract requirements.

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2.0 DETERMINATION OF DESIGN CONDITIONS

During the preliminary design phase of the BRU Program, system studies were performed to determine trends toward establishing the optimum BRU configuration and its corresponding design points at three representative power levels-2.25 $\rm kw_e$, 6.0 $\rm kw_e$, and 10.5 $\rm kw_e$ net electrical output. Extensive parametric analysis evolved a system design which yielded high cycle efficiency and conditions favorable to the BRU throughout the 2.25 $\rm kw_e$ to 10.5 $\rm kw_e$ power range.

The compressor design conditions resulting from that analysis at the reference design power level of $6.0~\mathrm{kw}_e$ are as follows:

Working fluid	XeHe mixture, equivalent molecular weight = 83.8
Compressor inlet pressure (total)	13.5 psia
Compressor inlet temperature (total)	540°R
Compressor pressure ratio	1.9
Compressor mass flow rate	0.756 lb/sec.
Compressor rotating speed	36,000 rpm
Compressor specific speed	0.11

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3.0 COMPRESSOR DESIGN

3.1 Aerodynamic Design Approach

After reviewing the compressor design conditions obtained from the system analysis, it was determined that an exact scale of an existing compressor stage would yield excellent efficiency. To assist in reaching this conclusion, the measured performance of the existing compressor was utilized, in a computer program to predict the performance in the XeHe mixture and appropriate corrections were made to account for expected efficiency changes. Similar past performance predictions based on air data for compressors to be operated in gases other than air have proven to be reliable.

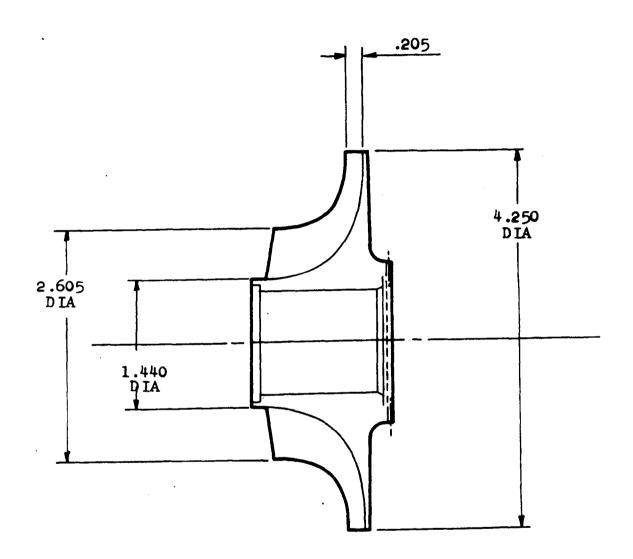
The only new component required—the scroll—was designed to provide a minimum total pressure loss from the diffuser exit to the scroll exit using standard scroll design practice. In addition, only minor mechanical diffuser modification would be required. Further study indicated that based on the existing technology, it was not likely that a new compressor designed specifically for the BRU would exceed the expected efficiency of a scaled stage. Estimates of efficiency deterioration due to lower Reynold's number, smaller and less accurate parts, and higher relative axial clearance led to a predicted design efficiency of greater than 80 percent.

The final calculated scale factor was 0.514. The meridional dimensions of the scaled wheel are given in Figure 1.



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BRU COMPRESSOR WHEEL

FIGURE 1



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The compressor wheel from which the BRU has been scaled is typical of the latest generation of small centrifugal compressors which employ backward curved blading (the blade is not radial at the exit). Using advanced analysis techniques and sophisticated development procedures, this type of design has exhibited consistently high efficiencies over a wide range of pressure ratios.

3.2 Aerodynamic Design Data

The following is a tabulation of the aerodynamic design data, for the compressor.

- (a) Velocity vector diagrams.(See Figure 2 for impeller velocity diagrams and Figure 3 for diffuser and scroll velocity diagrams).
- (b) Efficiencies (See Table 1)
- (c) Pressure ratios
 Total-to-total pressure ratio = 1.900
 Total-to-static pressure ratio = 1.981
- (d) Actual specific work = 16.58 hp per 1b per sec.
- (e) Weight flow = 0.756 lb per sec.
- (f) Stator and rotor physical dimensions
 (See Figure 4)
- (g) Total and static pressures at inlet and exit of stator and rotor (See Table 1)
- (h) Total temperatures at inlet and exit
 (See Table 1)

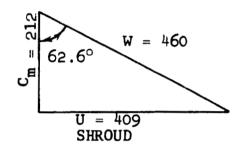
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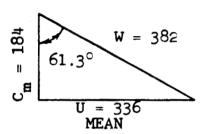
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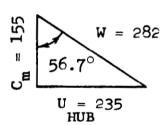
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- (i) Specific speed = 0.111
- (j) Physical speed = 36,000 rpm
- (k) Working fluid = XeHe mixture (molecular weight = 83.8)

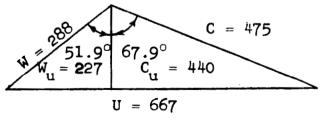
(a) IMPELLER INLET VELOCITY TRIANGLES (INSIDE OF BLADE INCLUDING BLADE BLOCKAGE)







(b) IMPELLER EXIT VELOCITY TRIANGLES (MEAN VELOCITY INSIDE OF BLADE INCLUDING BLADE BLOCKAGE)



EXIT MEAN

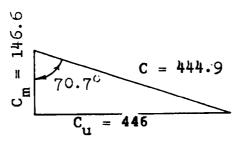
COMPRESSOR IMPELLER DIAGRAMS

FIGURE 2 APS-5269-R Page 7



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(a) DIFFUSER INLET (MEAN JUST UPSTREAM OF VANE)



(b) DIFFUSER EXIT (CORE VELOCITY INSIDE OF BLADE)

$$C_{u} = 172$$

(c) SCROLL INLET (MEAN VELOCITY)

$$C_{u} = 90$$

(d) SCROLL EXIT MEAN VELOCITY = 61 FT PER SEC. YIELDING MEXIT = 0.071

COMPRESSOR DIFFUSER AND SCROLL VELOCITY DIAGRAMS FIGURE 3

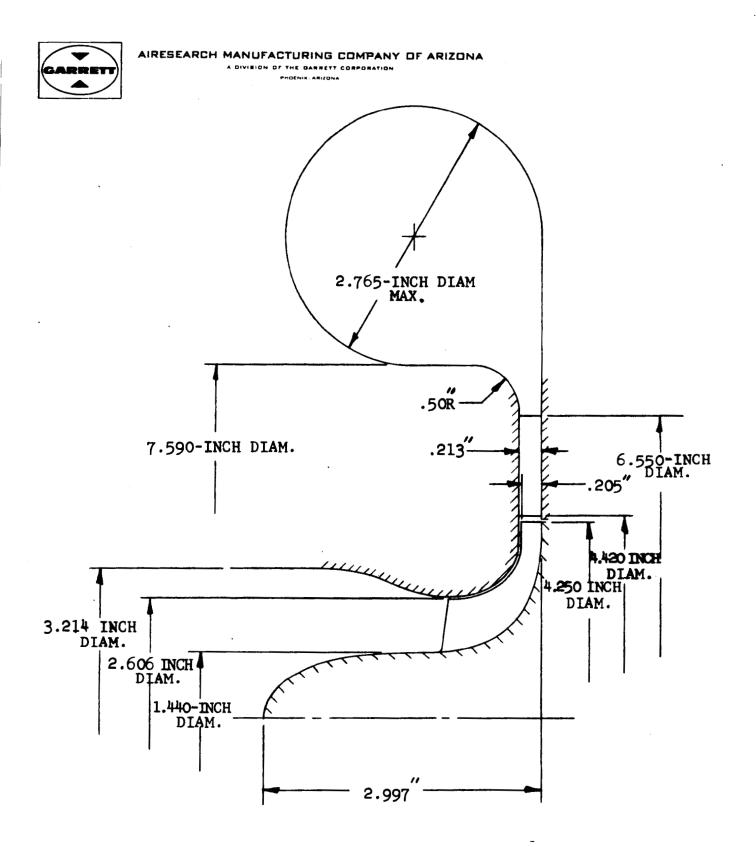
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TABLE I
PRESSURE, TEMPERATURE, AND EFFICIENCY
AT STATIONS THROUGH THE COMPRESSOR

	P _{Total} (psia)	P _{Static} (psia)	${^{\mathbf{T}}_{f{Total}}}_{f{({}^{\mathbf{O}}\!\mathbf{F})}}$	Efficiency Up To Location
Inlet (Outside Blade)	13.50	12.94	540.0	
Impeller exit (Mean)	27.40	20.89	737.6	89.5
Diffuser Inlet (Core)	27.25	21.60	737.6	88.7
Diffuser Exit (Core)	27.25	25.40	737.6	
Scroll Inlet (Mean)	25.81	25.39	737.6	81.0
Scroll Exit (Mean)	25.65	25.57	737.6	80.0



NASA BRU COMPRESSOR ROTOR AND STATOR PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS

FIGURE 4

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3.3 Compressor Wheel Stress Analysis

The BRU impeller, as discussed in Section 3.1, is an exact 0.514 scale-down of an existing impeller used extensively in a turboprop engine. The full sized impeller operates at a design speed of 41,700 rpm. Material density and scale factors applied to experimentally-determined blade stresses in the full-size wheel show that the blade stress levels in the BRU impeller are approximately 35 percent of those existing in the full-size wheel. The blade stress factor was determined as follows:

Centrifugal stress \propto (density) (radius)² (speed)²

where: BRU wheel speed = 36,000 rpm

Full-size wheel speed = 41,700 rpm

BRU wheel material = 403 CRES ($\gamma = 0.28$ $1b/in^3$)

Full-size wheel material = titanium ($\varepsilon = 0.16 \text{ lb/in}^3$)

Hence:

Centrifugal blade stress for BRU = $\left(\frac{.28}{.16}\right)$ $\left(.514\right)^2 \left(\frac{36,000}{41,700}\right)^2$ impeller

> Centrifugal blade = 0.344 x stress for full-size impeller

Applying this factor to the experimentally determined blade stress values for the full-size impeller results in maximum values for the BRU impeller of 25,000 psi.

A stress analysis was performed on the BRU impeller to determine the centrifugal stresses in the wheel disk at its operating speed

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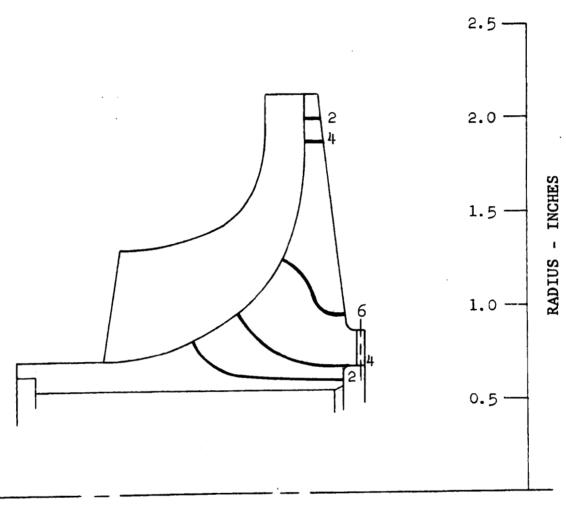
of 36,000 rpm. Figures 5 & 6 present, graphically, the radial and tangential stresses expected in the disk.

Yielding of the disk may be expected at a minimum speed of 65,000 rpm and the minimum burst speed may be expected at 95,000 rpm. Since creep of the 403 CRES wheel material is negligable at the temperatures and stress levels encountered in this application, the BRU compressor wheel may be considered essentially an infinite-life wheel.



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NOTES:

- 1. OPERATING SPEED = 36,000 RPM
- 2. MATERIAL = 403 CRES
- 3. ALL STRESSES IN KSI

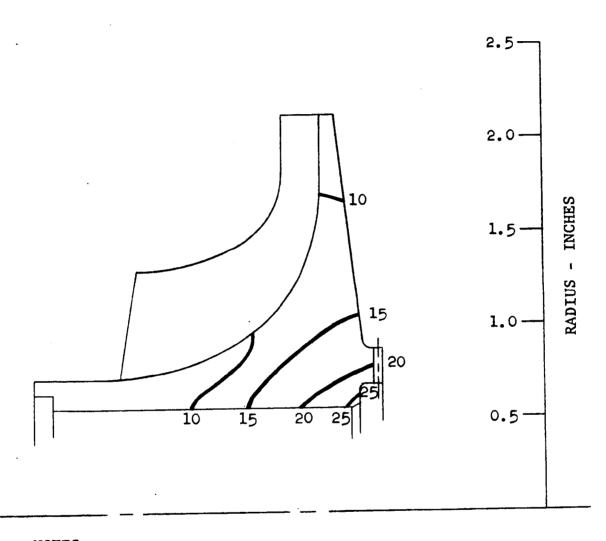
NASA BRU COMPRESSOR IMPELLER RADIAL STRESS DISTRIBUTION

FIGURE 5



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NOTES:

- i. OPERATING SPEED = 36,000 RPM
- 2. MATERIAL = 403 CRES
- 3. ALL STRESSES IN KSI
- 4. AVERAGE TANGENTIAL STRESS = 12,750 PSI

NASA BRU COMPRESSOR IMPELLER TANGENTIAL STRESS DISTRIBUTION

FIGURE 6

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3.4 Critical-Speed Analysis

In order to perform a critical-speed analysis for the compressor research package, the operating speed range for performance testing had to be determined. The desired speed range for the package is set forth in Table 2. Selection of the speed range was coordinated with the cognizant personnel at the NASA-Lewis Research Center.

The elastic and mass model of the rotating assemblies used in the critical-speed analysis is shown in Figure 7 As can be noted, the balanced flexible coupling was included in the elastic and mass model. In addition, the Contractorselected drive turbine, that was used for the acceptance testing of the research package was included to determine whether or not the flexible coupling arrangement would significantly influence the rigid-body critical speeds of the research package. The critical speeds of the compressor package rotating assembly, plotted as a function of bearing resilient-mount spring rates, are shown in Figure 8 the case of equal spring rate mounts at both bearings. Figure 8 shows that the use of 30,000 ppi resilient mounts at each bearing will allow the compressor research package to operate over the range of 25,550 to 66,165 rpm without encountering rigid-body critical speeds. The bending mode critical is shown to be approximately 74,000 rpm. be noted that the drive turbine system critical speed (first system critical) is very low and does not influence the critical speeds of the compressor package. Bearing loads for the anticipated operating range (25,550 to 66,165 rpm) are plotted as a function of speed in Figure 9 for an assumed rotor c.g. eccentricity of 0.0002 inch.



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TABLE 2

COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE OPERATING SPEED RANGE

Compressor:

Percent Operating Speed 50 100 Argon (60°F inlet) 25,550 rpm 51,100 rpm Air (60°F inlet) 30,075 rpm 60,150 rpm

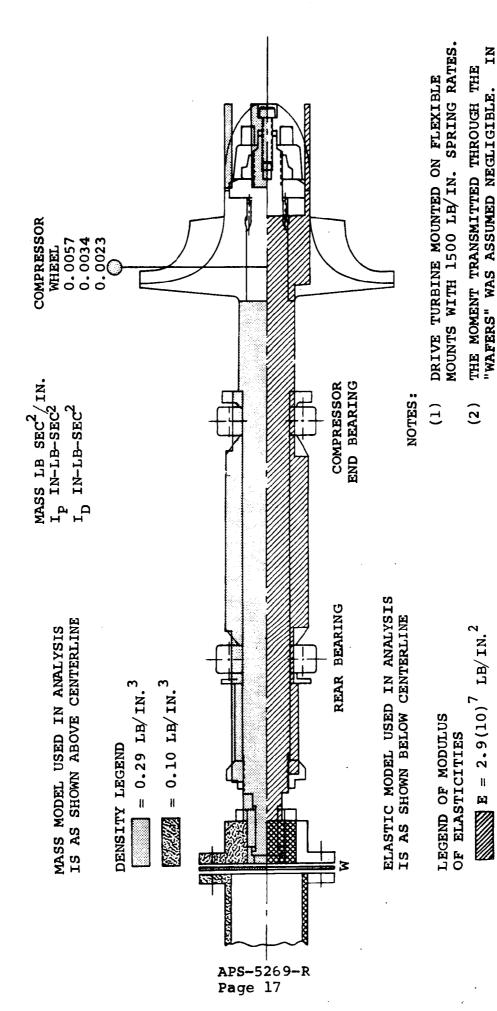
Overspeed condition - 110 percent of 60,150 = 66,165 rpm DESIGN SPEED RANGE = 25,500 - 66,165 rpm

NOTE:

Testing with Helium-Xenon Gas Mixture is not

a requirement.

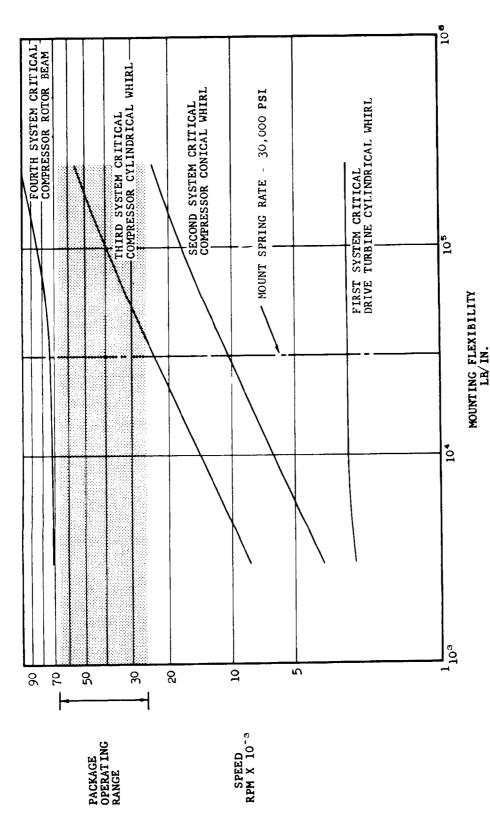




SYSTEM USED IN CRITICAL SPEED BEARING LOAD ANALYSIS OF THE BRU COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE

ESSENCE, A PINNED-JOINT WAS ASSUMED AT EACH END OF THE FLEXIBLE COUPLING.

 $\mathbf{E} = 1.0(10)^7 \text{ LB/IN.}^2$



BRU COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE CRITICAL SPEEDS AS A FUNCTION OF MOUNTING FLEXIBILITY FOR BOTH MOUNTS EQUAL

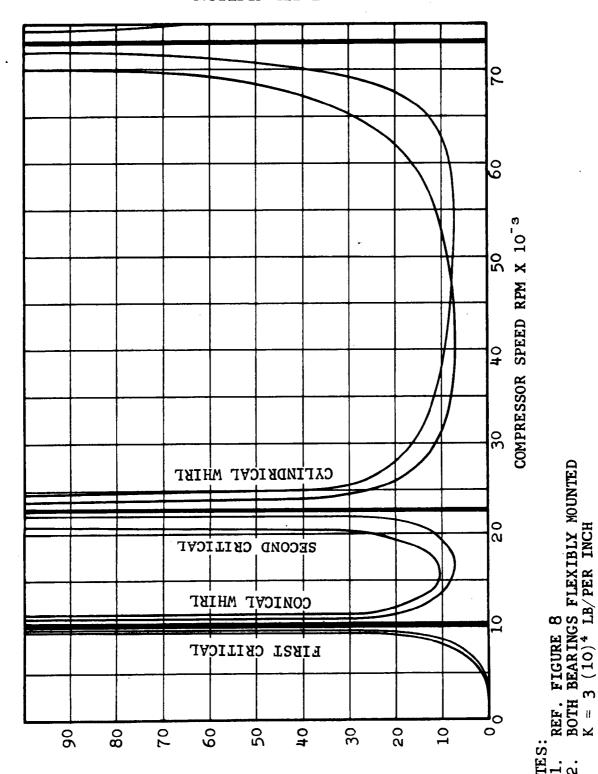
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FIGURE

REF: FIGURE 7 EQUAL MOUNTINGS ON COMPRESSOR ROTOR (SE) NOTES:



THIRD CRITICAL



FOR EACH MASS-LB MAXIMUM BEARING LOAD O. OOOS C.G. ECCENTRICITY

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BEARING LOADS FOR BRU COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE

FIGURE

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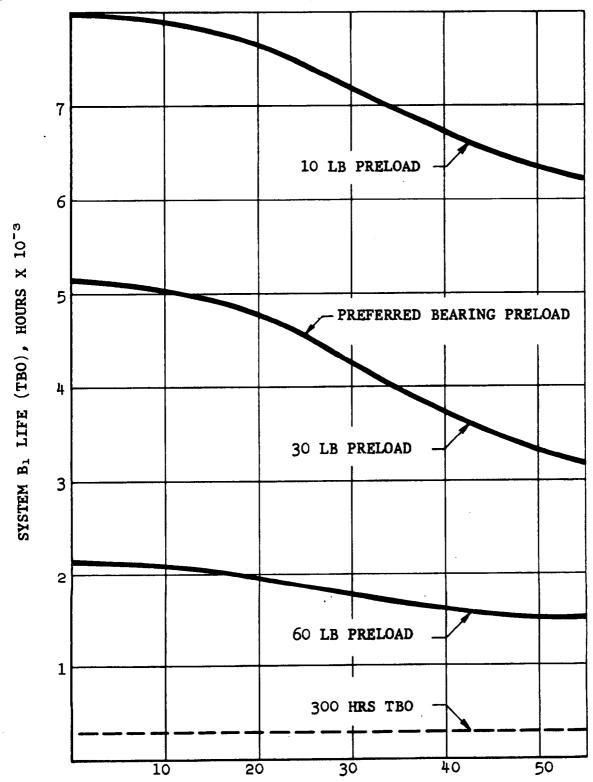
3.5 Bearing and Seal Design Data and Drawings

The angular-contact rolling-element bearing selected as a result of a digital computer program optimization for the research package should adequately meet the design objective of a time-between-over-haul (TBO) of 300 hours minimum when using air-oil mist lubrication (MIL-L-7808). The major characteristics of the chosen bearing (Part 358500) are:

Bore diameter	20 mm
Outside diameter	42 mm
Width	12 mm
Number of balls	11
Ball diameter	9/32 inch
Inner-race curvature	52 to 53 percent
	of ball diameter
Outer-race curvature	52 to 53 percent
•	of ball diameter
Contact angle	16 degrees
Ring and ball material	Consumable-
	Electrode vacuum-
•	melted M-50 tool
	steel
Separator material	Iron-silicon-
	bronze, silver-
	plated

The unidirection (1 "g") radial bearing loads and thrust loads assumed for the analysis are shown in Table 3. The predicted bearing system life, B_1 , for preloads of 10, 30, and 60 pounds for the compressor is shown in Figure 10. The predicted power loss per bearing for preloads of 10, 30, and 60 pounds for the compressor package is plotted in Figure 11. Representative package speeds, bearing loads, and predicted system B_1 life for the package is presented in Table 4. It is evident that the TBO design objective (300 hours minimum) can be easily met. The bearing configuration and material requirements are shown in Drawing 358500.



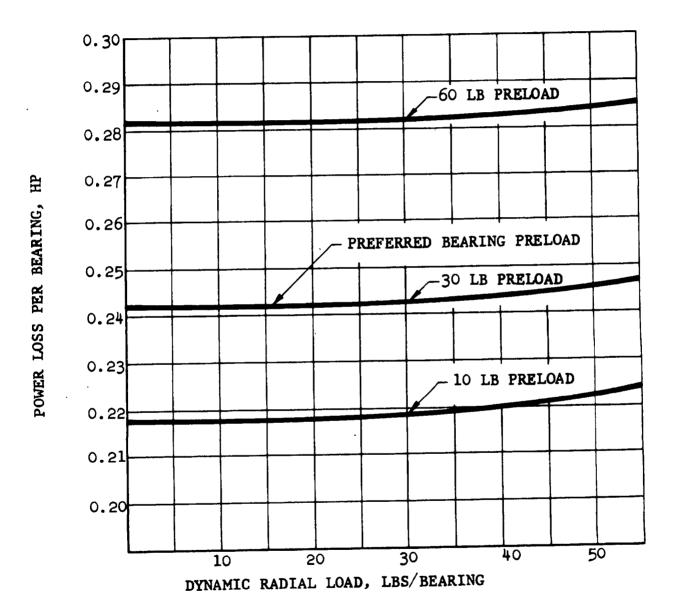


DYNAMIC RADIAL LOAD, LBS/BEARING

BEARING SYSTEM LIFE B_1 NASA BRU COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE

FIGURE 10





BEARING POWER LOSS FOR NASA BRU COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE BEARING

FIGURE 11

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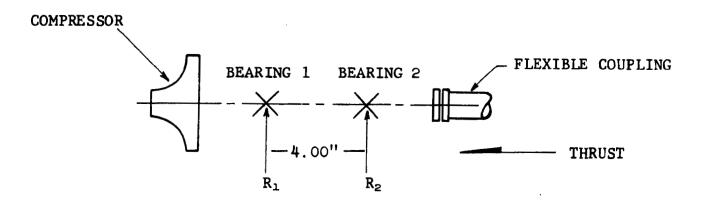
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TABLE 3

UNIDIRECTIONAL BEARING LOADS ASSUMED FOR BEARING ANALYSIS, COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE



NOTE: Bearing 2 takes thrust loads in the direction shown.

	$R_1(lbs)$	$R_{s}(1bs)$	Thrust (lbs)
Compressor Package	5.1	0.5	5

TABLE 4

COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE BEARING SYSTEM B₁ LIFE (TBO)

Compressor (30 pounds being preload):

Speed (rpm)	Max. Bearing Load (1bs)	B ₁ Life (Hours)
25,550	30	4,250
51,100 66,165	33	5,050 4,100



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The carbon-face contact seal for the compressor is shown on Drawing 699683. Five vendors indicated their desire to participate in this program, three of whom were selected by the Contractor as being approved. The seal designs proposed by each of the three vendors were quite similar (standard O-ring configuration with wave washer spring loading). The internal configuration of the seal design allows for a constant pressure differential or direction of the pressure differential. The only face pressure incurred will result from the spring loading and O-ring drag. Thus, a very wide range of compressor wheel back-face pressures can be readily accommodated without seal carbon-face leakage or destruction.

3.6 Compressor Instrumentation

The compressor research package has a full compliment of static pressure instrumentation and provisions for the addition by the NASA, of total pressure and temperature instrumentation to assist in the aerodynamic performance evaluation of the compressor. The following is a list of the instrumentation and the provisions therefore as installed on the compressor research package:

(a) Inlet

(1) Three (3) static pressure taps in the same plane 120° apart. The bosses are machined with 1/8-inch pipe threads and a 0.030-inch diameter static pressure tap hole.

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(2) Three (3) bosses for total pressure taps, 0.5-inch downstream of the static pressure taps and rotated 60° to the static taps and 120° apart. The bosses are machined with 1/8-inch threads.

(b) Rotor

- (1) Three (3) sets of five static pressure taps along the rotor leading edge section of the rotor shroud set 120° apart.
- (2) One (1) set of three (3) equally spaced machined bosses located axially at the rotor tip for blade clearance probes.

(c) Diffuser

- (1) Vaneless section Three (3) static pressure taps equally spaced on the rotor shroud located between rotor outlet and vaned diffuser inlet.
- (2) Vaned section Two (2) sets of five (5) static pressure taps each along the diffuser mid-channel streamline, one (1) set on each side of a diffuser passage.

(d) Scroll exit

(1) Four (4) static pressure taps in the same plane, 90° apart. The bosses are machined with 1/8-inch pipe threads and a 0.030-inch diameter static pressure tap hole.

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(2) Four (4) bosses for total pressure taps, 0.5-inch down-stream of the static taps, rotated 45° to the static taps and 90° apart. The bosses are machined with 1/8-inch pipe threads.

e. Bearings

(1) Three (3) C.A. thermocouples on each bearing

f. Shaft speed

(1) Three (3) Electro Products (No. 3016) shaft speed pickups spaced 45° apart.

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4.0 GENERAL UNIT DESCRIPTION

The dimensional outline of the compressor research package is shown in Drawing 699680. This drawing also defines the interfaces between (a) the end of the impeller shaft machined to mate with the drive coupling, Drawing 699667 (NASA Drawing CC844330), (b) the bolt flanges at the compressor inlet and discharge to permit attachment to adaptor flanges, Drawings 699767 and 699768 and (c) the mating electrical connectors (temperature, speed and power) and pipe fittings. General operating conditions for the unit are also specified.

A cross-sectional view of the compressor research package is shown in Assembly Drawing (699681). The unit consists of the impeller assembly (Item 8) mounted in the main housing (Item 1) on two antifriction bearings (Item 6, also Drawing 358500). Both bearings are resiliently mounted with a spring rate of 30,000 pounds per inch using the bearing mount assembly (Item 5). This spring rate was chosen so that the operating speed range would be between a low second critical and a very high third critical; a coil spring (Item 30) provides 30 pounds of axial preload on the bearings. An oil jet (Item 27) supplies pressurized, air-oil mist to each bearing.

Labyrinth type seals are provided at each end of the housing. The impeller end seal has a purge chamber located in the middle of the seal. The impeller end is also equipped with a carbon-face type oil seal (Item 9, also Drawing 699683).

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The compressor scroll (Items 24, 25, and 26) is attached to the main housing by a bolted flange. Shimming to obtain the desired compressor-wheel-shroud-face clearance is accomplished at this flange by providing a shim of predetermined thickness between the housing and the scroll flange. A design value of the clearance was established at 0.007-0.009 inch. Sealing at this shim is accomplished with the 0-rings (NAS 1593-174). A rigid mounting base (Item 2) provides for mounting the compressor research package on a test stand bed-plate.

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5.0 COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE ACCEPTANCE TESTING

The compressor research package acceptance test was performed at the AiResearch Manufacturing Company, Phoenix, Arizona on August 15, 1967. All testing was conducted at the Phoenix Division laboratory facility and was witnessed by a representative of the NASA.

The acceptance test setup consisted of three basic components mounted on an aluminum fixture (see Figures 12, 13, and 14) as follows:

- (a) AiResearch Constant Speed Drive Starter (CSDS) turbine
- (b) Coupling (NASA Drawing CC844330)
- (c) Compressor Research Package

During the test the CSDS turbine, supplied with plant compressed air energy, was used to drive the compressor package through the 699667 coupling. Air-oil mist lubrication for the package was furnished by a calibrated Norgren oiler.

The acceptance test was conducted as follows: A critical speed of the system to 51,200 rpm (100 percent design speed). The system was then stabilized at design speed for the required 30 minutes, during which time unit speed, vibration, and bearing temperatures were manually recorded at five minute intervals.

Following this 30 minute cycle, the speed was increased to 61.400 rpm (120 percent design speed) for 10 minutes. The



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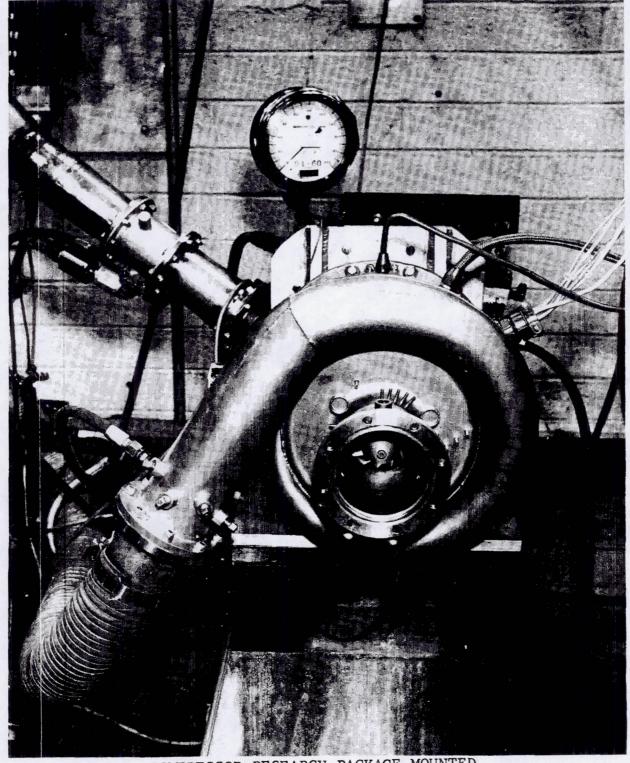
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acceptance test was then complete and the system was shut down.

Acceptance test data, including assembly instructions, parts list, delivery spares and the unit build history have been delivered to the NASA Lewis Research Center in a separate document in accordance with contract requirements.



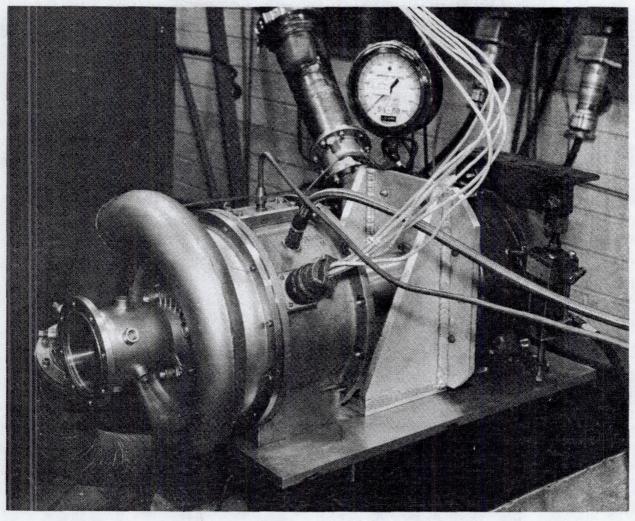


COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE MOUNTED IN ACCEPTANCE TEST RIG-FRONT VIEW

FIGURE 12

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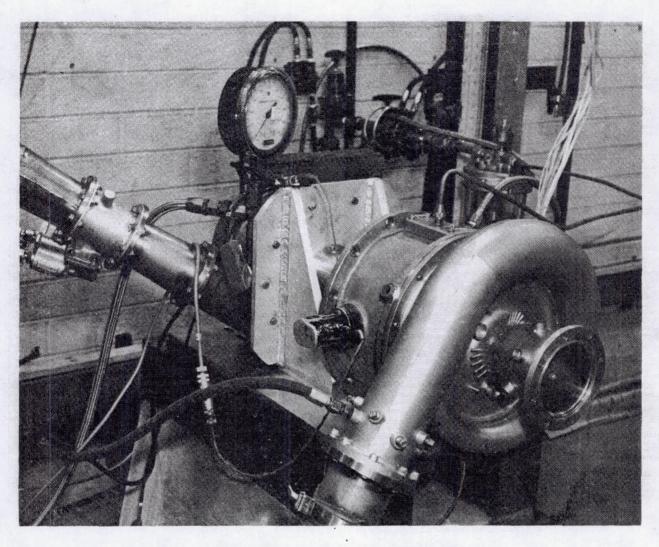




COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE MOUNTED IN ACCEPTANCE TEST RIG - LEFT SIDE VIEW

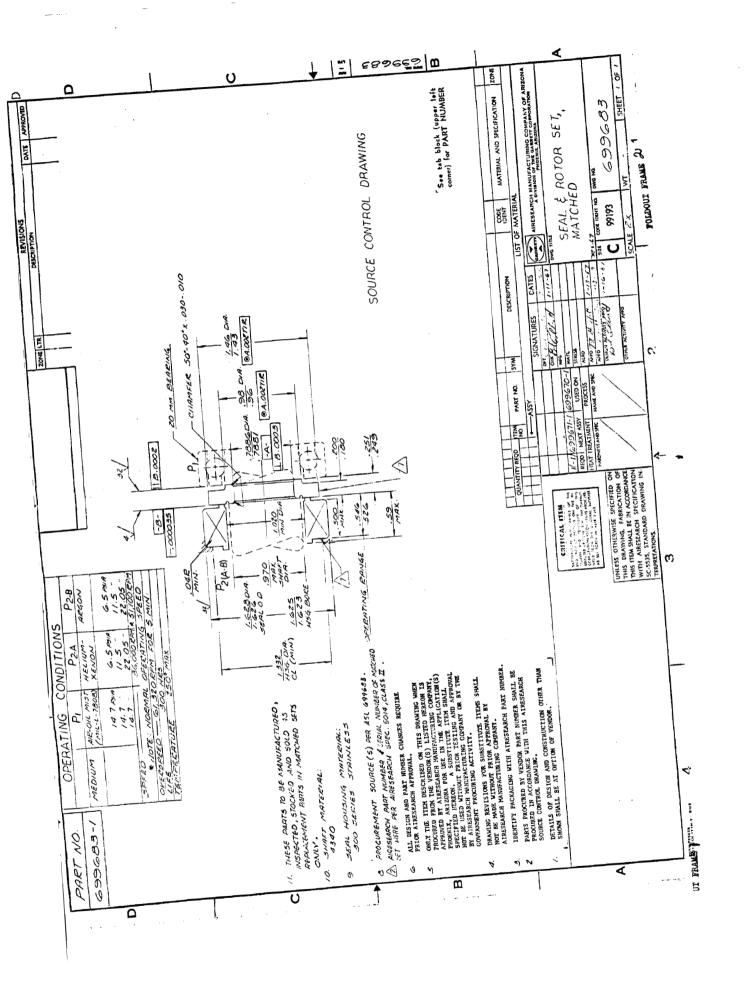
FIGURE 13

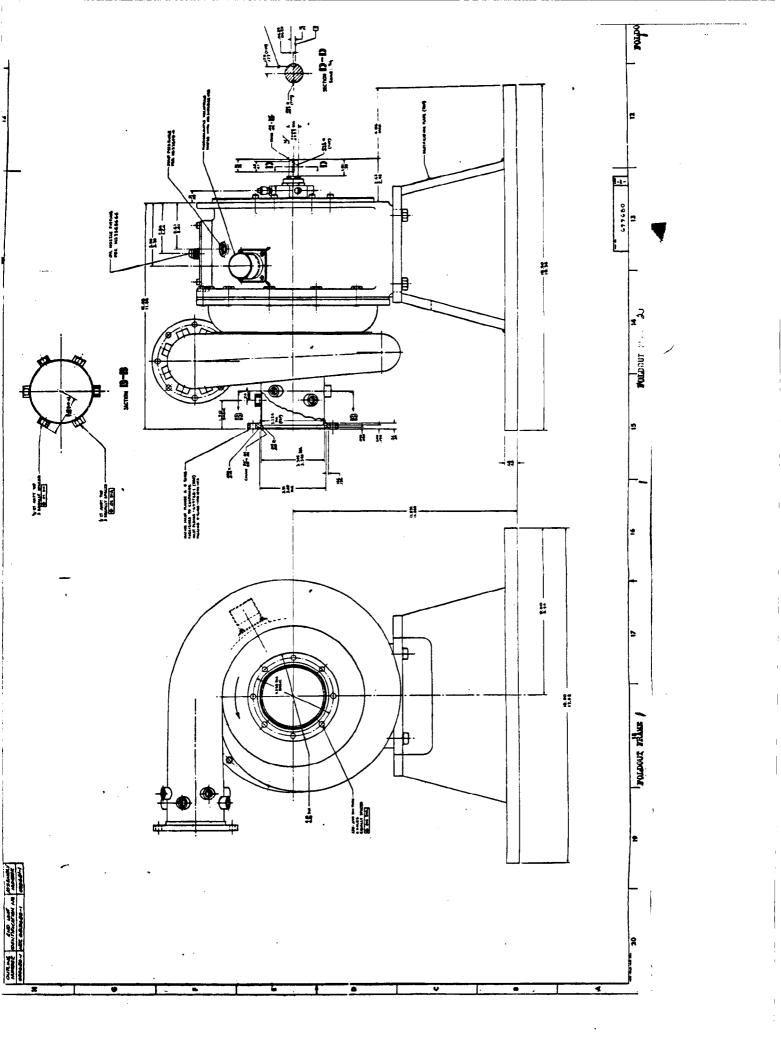


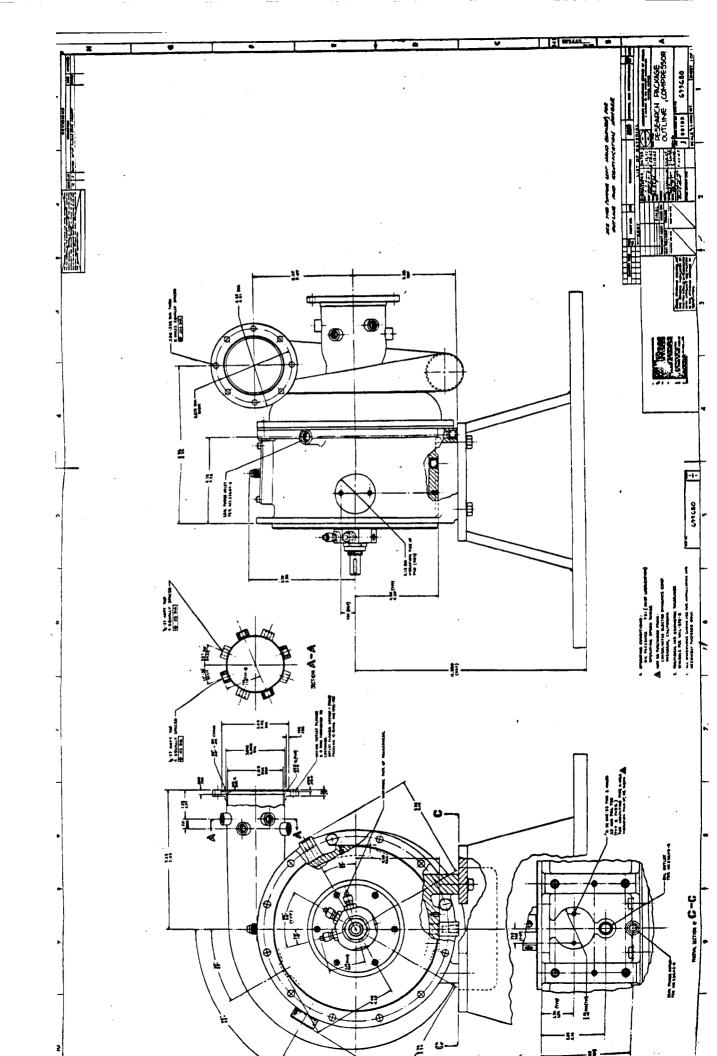


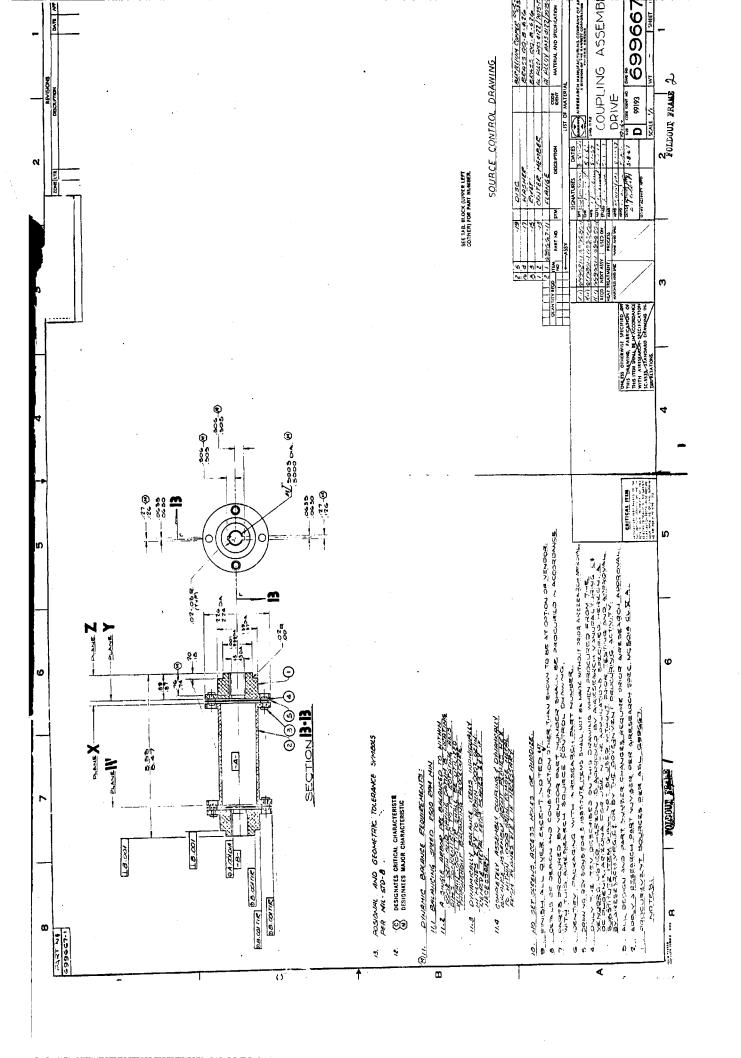
COMPRESSOR RESEARCH PACKAGE MOUNTED IN ACCEPTANCE TEST RIG - RIGHT SIDE VIEW FIGURE 14

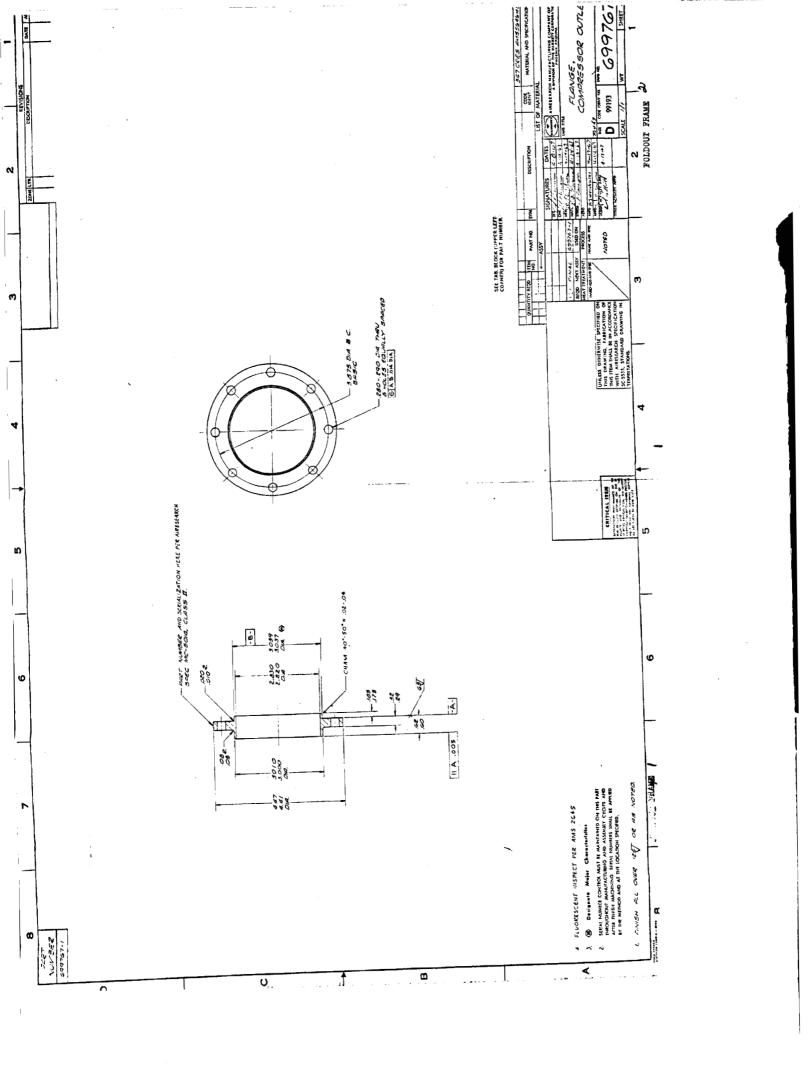
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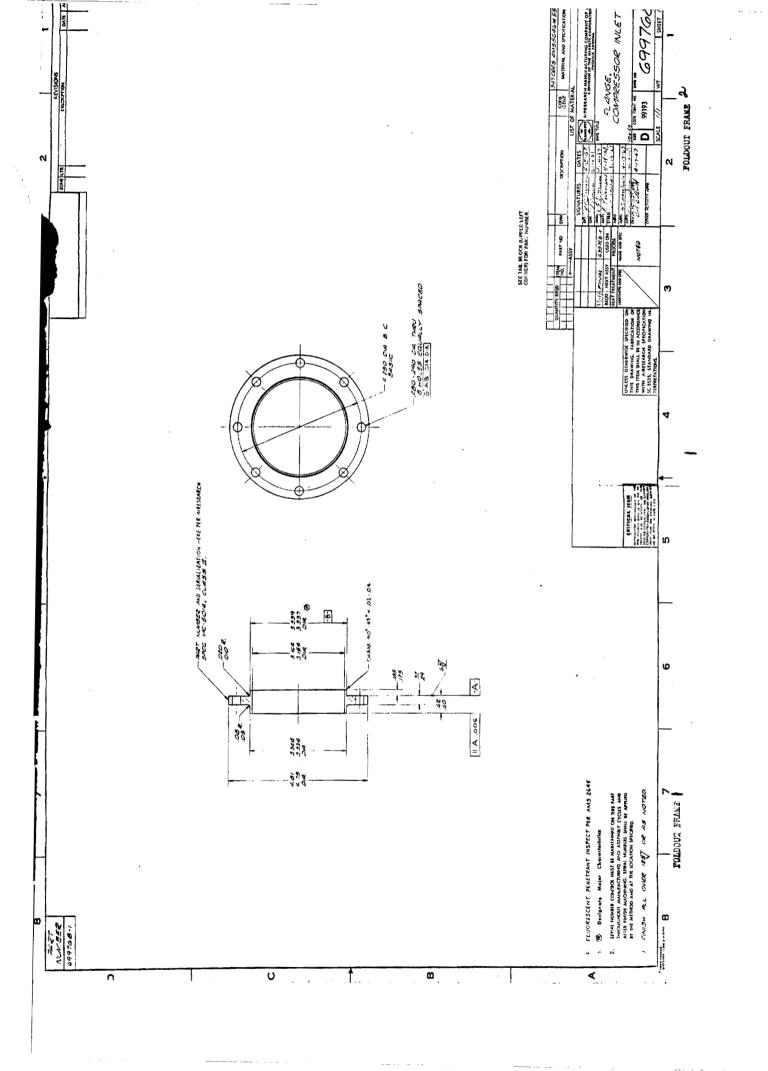


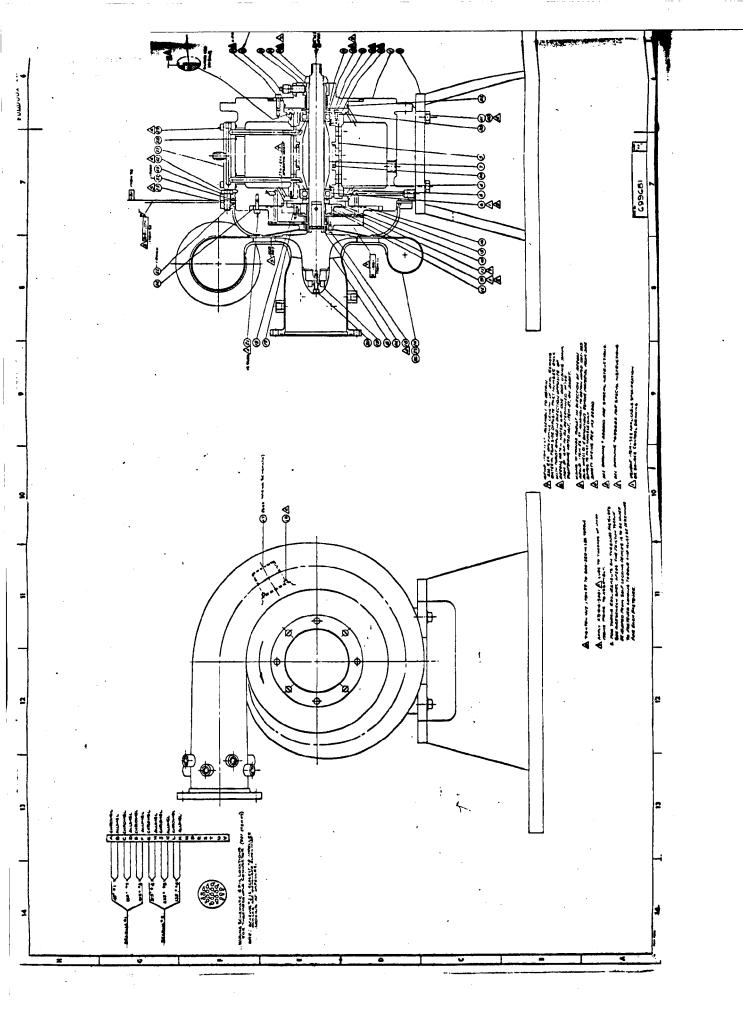


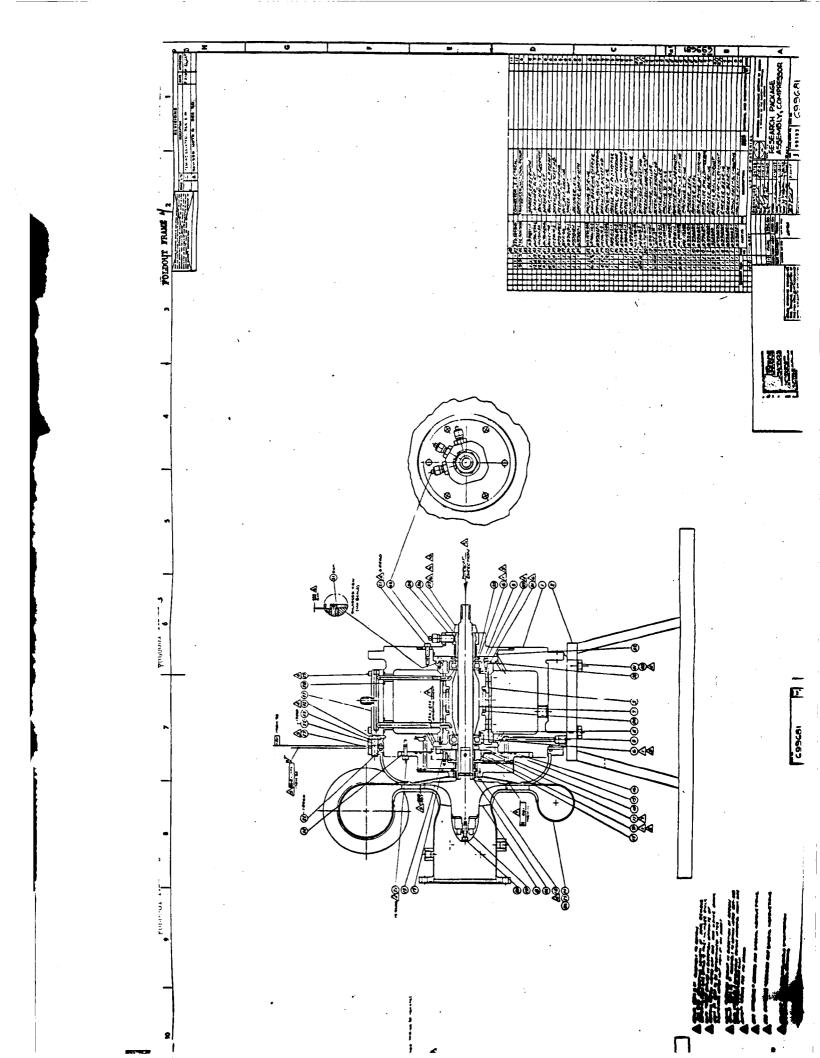


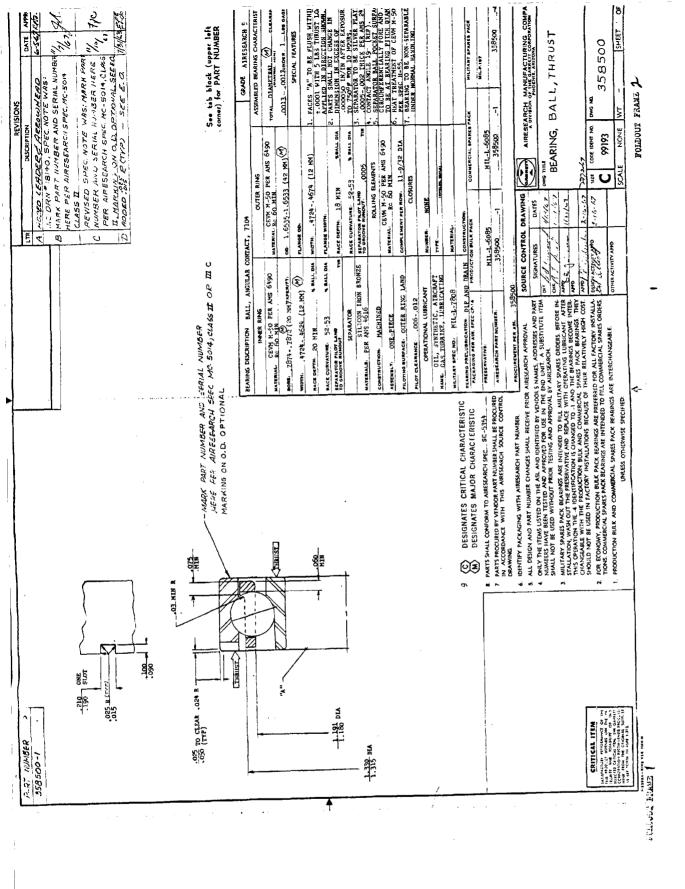












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